

Burning Man attendance doesn't hit BLM cap

September 2, 2012



Bureau of Land Management officials say the festival's peak attendance on Friday hit 52,385 which is down from the same time last year. But burners on their trip home tell News 4 it was still one for the record books.

"If Venus was hospitable it would be like partying on Venus," first time Burning Man attendee from Pleasanton, CA. Greg Visscher says.

Joshua Parr from Los Angeles also had his first Burning Man experience and agrees with Visscher, it was out of this world.

"It's the subconscious American psyche over the last five decades collected in a fantasy and cartoon form, but real," Parr says.

Burning Man, themed "Fertile 2.0" may mean something a little different to everyone, but one thing people coming back from the festival agree on is the experience is one in a million.

"You get to go out there, you get to feel freedom so you know you get to come back rejuvenated," Parr says.

The man burned Saturday night so several burners started making their way back to civilization on Sunday.

BLM officials say the festival's peak attendance on Friday was down 1.7 percent from the same time last year and well within the per day cap BLM set at 60, 900 people.

Attendance may have been lower, but first time burners like Chantel Dominguez says the burning of the man was as spectacular as she imagined.

"It's unexplainable really you can't know anything about it until you've actually been there," Dominguez says.

Visscher also spent his last night watching the man burn.

"The last night was just magical for me everything seemed to the whole universe seems to just kind of work for me and everything went right," Visscher says.

So what do burners say they want now after their week long adventure?

"Actually hot tub, already ordered for her (wife) to warm up the hot tub," Visscher says.

The man will burn again in 363 days.

* * * * *

Burning man arrest count released

September 10, 2012

From the mynews4.com website - 2:19 p.m.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office has released the crime citations and arrests made during this year's Burning Man event.

Thirteen misdemeanor citations (in lieu of arrests) for possession of a controlled substance (marijuana/drug paraphernalia) were issued. Seven DUI arrests were made. Four drug arrests and four warrant arrests were also made.

In the period between Aug. 22 and Sept. 6, Washoe County issued 472 traffic violations citations in the area of Gerlach and Empire.